

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 9. Please cancel claims 13-15. Please add new claims 16 and 17, all as follows:

9. (Amended) A longitudinal folding device comprising:

a machine frame;

a longitudinal folding hopper supported by said machine frame, said longitudinal folding hopper having at least first and second hopper flanks, said at least first and second hopper flanks receiving paper webs passing through said longitudinal folding hopper;

a paper deflection device supported by said machine frame, said paper deflection device being spaced from, and enclosing said longitudinal folding device in a shell-like manner;

~~a machine frame supporting said paper deflection device, and~~

~~a high voltage source connected to said paper deflection device[[, said]];~~

and

electrically insulating means supporting said paper deflection device on being arranged electrically insulated against said machine frame to electrically insulate said paper deflection device from said machine frame.

10. (Original) The longitudinal folding device of claim 9 wherein said high voltage source is a d.c. high tension source having different polarities and further wherein said longitudinal folding hopper and said paper deflection device are connected to different polarities of said d.c. high tension source.

11. (Original) The longitudinal folding device of claim 9 wherein said longitudinal folding hopper has a hopper projection.

B (

12. (Original) The longitudinal folding device of claim 9 further including first and second hopper folding rollers, said hopper folding rollers being rotatably supported by, and electrically insulated from said machine frame.

13. -15. (Cancelled)

16. (New) The longitudinal device of claim 9 further including means electrically interlocking said paper webs, said paper web electrical interlocking means being located before, in a direction of paper web travel, said longitudinal folding hopper.

17. (New) The longitudinal folding device of claim 10 wherein said paper webs are supported between said longitudinal folding hopper and said paper deflection device by said d.c. high tension source.